

REMARKSI. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated October 15, 2008, claims 1-6 have been amended. Claims 1-6 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

II. Claim Amendments

Applicant's attorney has made amendments to the claims as indicated above. Unless otherwise indicated, these amendments were made solely for the purpose of clarifying the language of the claims, and were not required for patentability or to distinguish the claims over the prior art.

III. Claim Objections

In paragraph (1) of the Office Action, claim 1 was objected to because of informalities. Applicant has amended claim 1 to overcome this objection.

IV. Non-Art Rejections

In paragraph (3) of the Office Action, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claims 1-6 to overcome this rejection.

V. Double Patenting Rejection

In paragraphs (9)-(10) of the Office Action, claims 1-6 of the application were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,889,384.

Applicant hereby submits a terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

VI. Prior Art Rejections

In paragraph (8) of the Office Action, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of Freeman et al., U.S. Publication 2002/0188943 (Freeman) and Rainville et al., U.S. Publication 2002/0069411 (Rainville).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in light of the arguments presented herein.

The Freeman Reference

The present invention relates to an interactive digital system enabling viewers full and active participation in experiencing a live broadcast event. Particularly, the presentation of the live event is personalized for the viewer through the provision of various options, including multiple video streams, associated with different camera angles, for example, and integrated audio and graphics segments. Further, information obtained from related Web sites can be integrated into the live program. Various video and audio streams are collected from a live event and forwarded to a central control studio. Graphics are created at the central studio on a personal computer or chyron device. After receiving the video, audio and graphics signals, the signals are digitized and compressed in digital compressors. These signals are then combined with special data codes into a "digital package," and subsequently, transmitted over a cable distribution system. Once received at a viewer home, the signals are received and processed in an interactive digital cable box. Selections of the video, audio, graphics displays and/or Web pages can be made as a function of immediate viewer entries, or to interrogatory responses presented at the beginning or during the program, or based on a prestored viewer profile. Once a decision is made to switch from one video to another video option, the digital switch is performed seamlessly. The digital interactive system is based upon seamless branches which occur in the course of full-motion video.

The Rainville Reference

A system for enhancing the display of World Wide Web pages combined with television video signals on a TV screen includes enhanced display modes. In a first embodiment, the viewer controls the transparency of a Picture-In-Picture image (PIP). A PIP image that normally covers up a part of the background image is made transparent so that the user can view the background image through the PIP image. Using transparency control, two same size images are simultaneously viewed whereby a full size background image and a full size foreground image simultaneously occupy the full television video screen. In a second embodiment of enhanced display of television video and World Wide Web graphics, a television video Picture-In-Graphics (PIG) image is imbedded as an object in an HTML Web page. When the HTML Web page is displayed as a background image and scrolled (or panned), the television video PIG image scrolls along with the HTML Web page

background image. In such manner, the smaller PIG image does not cover up an important part of the larger background graphics image.

The Claims Are Patentable Over The Cited References

Claims 1-6 recite systems and interfaces for allowing a user to select from and view a plurality of video images each representing a unique camera angle captured by one or more cameras at an event at a given venue to provide camera angle displays. An interface in accordance with one or more embodiments of the present invention comprises software for providing images to a viewing device, said viewing device further including on-screen indicia to a viewing device to facilitate navigation between said camera angle displays, said on-screen indicia comprises a transparent bar, a display of navigation keys to provide the user with directional navigation instructions, and a textual description of a current camera angle display being viewed, all superimposed upon said viewing device; and video image selection means for providing a user with a means of selecting from a variety of said camera angle displays for viewing said event.

The cited references do not teach nor suggest these various elements of Applicant's independent claims. Specifically, the cited references do not teach nor suggest at least the limitation of on-screen indicia to a viewing device to facilitate navigation between said camera angle displays as recited in the claims of the present invention.

The Office Action admits that Freeman does not disclose an on-screen indicia for facilitating navigation between the camera angles. Applicant agrees with this portion of the characterization of Freeman.

The Office Action relies on Rainville to teach this limitation. Applicant respectfully traverses this characterization of Rainville.

In Rainville, FIGS. 2A-3C, and paragraphs [0026]-[0027], it states:

[0026] In the prior art, it is known to combine a television video image with a Web page by a Picture-In-Picture overlay in the foreground with a World Wide Web page as the background. The behavior of the combined PIP/background image is illustrated in FIGS. 2A-2C. In FIG. 2A, an opaque television video image 604 is in the foreground overlaid on Web page 600, partially obscuring the underlying Web page 600. As the Web page is scrolled upward 601 in FIG. 2B the opaque television video image 604 obscures a different portion of the underlying Web page background. As the viewer continues to scroll the Web page upward 602 in FIG. 2C the opaque television video image 604 obscures yet a different portion of the underlying Web page background. Thus, in order to view all of the Web page 600 while having a television video image in a Picture-In-Picture overlay 604, the viewer must scroll the background Web page vertically 601, 602 (or pan horizontally) out from under the overlaid television video image 604.

[0027] FIGS. 3A-3C illustrate a display in accordance with the present invention. In FIG. 3A, the viewer has control over the transparency of the television video image 503. Transparent (or translucent) television video image 503 is in the foreground, overlaid on Web page 500. By being transparent, television video image 503 does not obscure Web page 500. As the Web page is scrolled upward 501 in FIG. 3B, the transparent television video image 503 permits the user to view a different portion of the Web page 500 without obscuring the portion of the Web page underlying the television video image. As the user further scrolls the Web page upward 502 in FIG. 3C, the transparent television video image 503 always permits the user to view the portion of the Web page background underneath the television video image 503. Thus, the user can view the Web page through the television video image in a Picture-In-Picture overlay, either while the Web page is stationary or while the viewer scrolls the Web page past the transparent television video image. (Emphasis added).

The focus of Rainville is to show transparent video channels with a web page in the background. There is nothing in Rainville to teach that the web page 600 is related to the video 604; all that the content says is "THIS IS A WEB PAGE" which is obscured in FIG. 2A and readable in FIG. 3A. The selections given on web pages 600, 601, 602, 500, 501, and 502 are unrelated to the video shown in video 604 and 503.

As such, the Rainville reference cannot teach at least the limitation of an on-screen indicia for facilitating navigation between the camera angles as recited in the present invention, because the web page in Rainville is unrelated to the video, and therefore unrelated to any camera angle display associated with the video being shown.

Moreover, the various elements of Applicant's claimed invention together provide operational advantages over Freeman and Rainville. In addition, Applicant's invention solves problems not recognized by Freeman and Rainville.

Thus, Applicant submits that independent claims 1-6 are allowable over Freeman and Rainville.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicant's undersigned attorney. Applicants have included a Terminal Disclaimer and the required fee with this response. The Director is hereby authorized to charge applicant's Deposit Account No. 50-0383 for any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to this account.

Respectfully submitted,

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